

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ikuo URATANI, et al
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: On Even Date
For: DISK ARRAY APPARATUS, AND METHOD FOR
CONTROLLING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 3, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the new application.

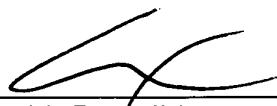
To the extent some of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by the discussion of these documents in the specification, for example on page 2 and 3.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 1309.43471X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS LLP



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/nac
(703) 312-6600
Attachments

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <small>Use as many sheets as necessary</small>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	February 3, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Ikuo URATANI, et al
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	1309.43471X00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		US- 5,680,640		10-21-1997		
		US- 5,896,548		04-20-1999		
		US- 6,108,748		08-22-2000		
		US- 6,240,486		05-29-2001		
		US- 6,356,977		03-12-2002		
		US- 6,598,134B		07-22-2003		
		US- 2001/0001870A1		05-24-2001		
		US-2002/0004890A1		01-10-2002		
		US- 6,542,961B1		04-01-2003		
		US-2002/0092898A1		07-11-2002		
		US- 2002/0095549		07-18-2002		
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)					
		JP-10-508967		09-02-1998			
		JP-2001-337850		12-07-2001			
		JP-09-288547		11-04-1997			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.